

and furnished a copy of the designated examiner's memorandum. The notice shall be given in conjunction with notification of the date, place, and time of holding the final hearing. The notice shall be sent by certified mail, with return receipt requested, after any review made by the regional administrator.

(b) *Recommendation that petition be granted.* When the designated examiner proposes to recommend granting of the petition filed prior to October 1, 1991 and to present the facts and issues to the court, the petitioner or his or her attorney or representative shall be notified of the recommendation and furnished a copy of the designated examiner's memorandum prior to the date of the hearing, and after any review made by the regional administrator.

(c) *Disagreement between recommendations of designated examiner and the regional administrator.* In those cases reviewed by the regional administrator in which his or her views and recommendations do not agree with those of the designated examiner, the notice required by paragraphs (a) and (b) of this section shall also advise the petitioner of the recommendation of the regional administrator and that both recommendations will be presented to the court. There shall also be enclosed with such notice a copy of the regional administrator's memorandum.

(d) *Briefs.* If the petitioner intends to file a brief or memorandum at the final hearing, he or she shall furnish a copy thereof to the Service office from which the notice on Form N-425 emanated at least 5 days prior to the date of the final hearing. Failure to do so will result in a motion for a continuance if deemed essential for the proper presentation of the Government's case.

[22 FR 9822, Dec. 6, 1957, as amended at 35 FR 17530, Nov. 14, 1970; 56 FR 50498, Oct. 7, 1991]

PART 336—HEARINGS ON DENIALS OF APPLICATIONS FOR NATURALIZATION

Sec.

336.1 Denial after section 335 examination.

336.2 Hearing before an immigration officer.

336.3–336.8 [Reserved]

336.9 Judicial review of denial determinations on applications for naturalization.

AUTHORITY: 8 U.S.C. 1103, 1443, 1447, 1448.

SOURCE: 56 FR 50499, Oct. 7, 1991, unless otherwise noted.

§ 336.1 Denial after section 335 examination.

(a) After completing all examination procedures contained in part 335 of this chapter and determining to deny an application for naturalization, the Service shall serve a written notice of denial upon an applicant for naturalization no later than 120 days after the date of the applicant's first examination on the application.

(b) A notice of denial shall be prepared in a written, narrative format, and shall recite, in clear concise language, the pertinent facts upon which the determination was based, the specific legal section or sections applicable to the finding of ineligibility, and the conclusions of law reached by the examining officer in rendering the decision. Such notice of denial shall also contain a specific statement of the applicant's right either to accept the determination of the examining officer, or request a hearing before an immigration officer.

(c) Service of the notice of denial may be made in person or by certified mail to the applicant's last known address, or upon the attorney or representative of record as provided in part 292 of this chapter.

§ 336.2 Hearing before an immigration officer.

(a) The applicant, or his or her authorized representative, may request a hearing on the denial of the applicant's application for naturalization by filing a request with the Service within thirty days after the applicant receives the notice of denial under § 336.1.

(b) Upon receipt of a timely request for a hearing, the Service shall schedule a review hearing before an immigration officer, within a reasonable period of time not to exceed 180 days from the date upon which the appeal is filed. The review shall be with an officer other than the officer who conducted the original examination under section 335 of the Act or who rendered the Service determination upon which the hearing is based, and who is classified at a grade level equal to or higher

than the grade of the examining officer. The reviewing officer shall have the authority and discretion to review the application for naturalization, to examine the applicant, and either to affirm the findings and determination of the original examining officer or to redetermine the original decision of the Service in whole or in part. The reviewing officer shall also have the discretion to review any administrative record which was created as part of the examination procedures as well as Service files and reports. He or she may receive new evidence or take such additional testimony as may be deemed relevant to the applicant's eligibility for naturalization or which the applicant seeks to provide. Based upon the complexity of the issues to be reviewed or determined, and upon the necessity of conducting further examinations with respect to essential naturalization requirements, such as literacy or civics knowledge, the reviewing immigration officer may, in his or her discretion, conduct a full *de novo* hearing or may utilize a less formal review procedure, as he or she deems reasonable and in the interest of justice.

(c) *Improperly filed request for hearing*—(1) *Request for hearing filed by a person or entity not entitled to file.*

(i) *Rejection without refund of filing fee.* A request for hearing filed by a person or entity who is not entitled to file such a request must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee that the Service has accepted will not be refunded.

(ii) *Request for hearing by attorney or representative without proper Form G-28.* If a request for hearing is filed by an attorney or representative without a properly executed Notice of Entry of Appearance as Attorney or Representative (Form G-28) entitling that person to file the request for hearing, the appeal will be considered as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee that the Service has accepted will not be refunded regardless of the action taken. The reviewing official shall ask the attorney or representative to submit Form G-28 to the official's office within 15 days of the request. If Form G-28 is not submitted within the time allowed, the official may, on his or her own motion, under § 103.5(a)(5)(i) of this

chapter, make a new decision favorable to the affected party without notifying the attorney or representative. The request for hearing may be considered properly filed as of its original filing date if the attorney or representative submits a properly executed Form G-28 entitling that person to file the request for hearing.

(2) *Untimely request for hearing*—(i) *Rejection without refund of filing fee.* A request for hearing which is not filed within the time period allowed must be rejected as improperly filed. In such a case, any filing fee that the Service has accepted will not be refunded.

(ii) *Untimely request for hearing treated as motion.* If an untimely request for hearing meets the requirements of a motion to reopen as described in § 103.5(a)(2) of this chapter or a motion to reconsider as described in § 103.5(a)(3) of this chapter, the request for hearing must be treated as a motion, and a decision must be made on the merits of the case.

[56 FR 50499, Oct. 7, 1991, as amended at 58 FR 49914, Sept. 24, 1993]

§§ 336.3–336.8 [Reserved]

§ 336.9 Judicial review of denial determinations on applications for naturalization.

(a) *General.* The provisions in part 310 of this chapter shall provide the sole and exclusive procedures for requesting judicial review of final determinations on applications for naturalization made pursuant to section 336(a) of the Act and the provisions of this chapter by the Service on or after October 1, 1991.

(b) *Filing a petition.* Under these procedures an applicant shall file a petition for review in the United States District Court having jurisdiction over his or her place of residence, in accordance with chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, within a period of not more than 120 days after the Service's final determination. The petition for review shall be brought against the Immigration and Naturalization Service, and service of the petition for review shall be made upon the Attorney General of the United States, and upon the official in charge of the Service office